

**WILLIAMSBURG CITY COUNCIL
CITY COUNCIL INTERVIEW SESSION
October 23, 2002**

The Williamsburg City Council held interviews of City Council Applicants on October 23, 2002, at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Stryker Building. The public was invited to attend.

ATTENDANCE

Present were Ms. Zeidler, Messrs. Haulman, Houghland, and Tabb. Clerk of Council Ms. Crist acted as timekeeper.

Mayor Zeidler said the purpose of the evening was to interview applicants for possible appointment to fill the unexpired term of Mr. George Genakos, who resigned on September 6, 2002. The applicants were *Billy S. Scruggs, Judith N. Knudson, and Paul T. Freiling*. This is the second of two interview sessions. The Williamsburg Area League of Women Voters held the first, and the League and the public posed questions. For this interview session, the Mayor said she will ask twelve questions and applicants will have two minutes to answer. Prior to the start of the meeting, applicants drew numbers for the order of questioning. At the end of the questioning, applicants will have two minutes to make their closing comments.

Mayor Zeidler said that Council would go into Closed Session at the end of the meeting. Council will meet again on Tuesday, October 20, 4:00 p.m., to make their selection of a fifth council member.

Mayor Zeidler introduced and welcomed applicants Billy S. Scruggs, Judith N. Knudson, and Paul T. Freiling.

Mayor Zeidler asked the following questions which were agreed to by Council members.

1. Envision, in some detail, the City of Williamsburg in the year 2022; and if you do not like what you see, what should Council be doing now to improve our future?
2. You, I am sure, have talked with most of our city's department directors. What is your reaction to their success, and which programs would you reinforce?
3. We are in tough economic times. We are going into our budget planning cycle. What would you propose if we have a serious shortfall in monies for services?
4. All City Council members are appointed to serve on various standing committees. What committee do you see yourself best serving?
5. Economic Growth—What steps have you seen Council doing to improve our tax base? Are we doing enough? What would you propose?
6. Council has had for some time the goal to protect our residential neighborhoods. What is your reaction to our proposed rental property ordinance?
7. Each political jurisdiction protects its fief, but we have many regional issues and concerns in common. What would you propose that would assist real community cooperation?
8. City, College, and CW Triad—The College of William and Mary and the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation are our major institutions in the city. What should Council be doing to reinforce their mission?

9. Thirty-four percent of the state's tourist revenue is produced in the Williamsburg Area. The legislature in Richmond often ignores this. Should the City Council do more to promote the return of monies to promote tourism? How would you do this?

10. The City of Williamsburg has always been an enthusiastic backer of public education. Because we have slightly less than 10% of the student population within our city limits, our representation of the School Board is proportionate. How could the City Council better reinforce our overwhelming endorsement of public education?

11. Assess your strengths on boards and commissions.

12. If this were an election, why would people vote for you?

Following the question and answer period, Mayor Zeidler thanked the applicants for their applications and thoughts put into each question, and stated that each were highly qualified to fill the position. Council members will discuss the applications during Closed Session, but no decision will be made.

Announcement: Mayor Zeidler announced with regret the passing of Mr. Peter Brown, a long time resident of the city and past member of the Planning Commission.

CLOSED SESSION

Mr. Houghland Moved that City Council go into Closed Session pursuant to Section 2.2-3711 of the Code of Virginia for the purpose of discussing one personnel matter per subparagraph 1 concerning the appointment to City Council. The Motion was Seconded by Mr. Tabb.

Recorded Vote on the Motion:

Aye: Haulman, Zeidler, Houghland, Tabb

No: None

The meeting adjourned at 8:18 p.m. (Mayor Zeidler called a five-minute recess.)

At 9:02 p.m., Council met in Open Session.

Mr. Houghland Moved the Certification of Closed Meeting. The Motion was Seconded by Mr. Tabb.

Recorded Vote on the Motion:

Aye: Haulman, Zeidler, Houghland, Tabb

No: None

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED MEETING

Date: October 23, 2002

Motion: Houghland Second: Mr. Tabb

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Williamsburg has convened a closed meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of The Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

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WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3712 of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by the City Council that such meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia Law.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of Williamsburg hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting to which this certification resolution applies, and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed session were heard, discussed or considered by the City of Williamsburg.

VOTE:

Aye: Haulman, Zeidler, Houghland, Tabb

No: None

Absent During Vote: None

Absent During Meeting: None

The meeting adjourned at 9:03 p.m.

Approved: November 14, 2002

Mayor

Clerk of Council